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TCS-2425-64/KH 11 June 1964

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Photographic Analysis, NPIC

SUBTECT:

Improvement of TID Mensuration Support Procedures

- 1. To provide more complete documentation of information published in NPIC PI reports, it is requested that the current PI report sign-off procedures be expanded to include the review and sign-off by the Technical Analysis Branch (TAB) photogrammetrist on PI reports for which TAB has provided technical data. Current PAG practice requires a review and sign-off by the photo interpreter, the graphics analyst and the editor of each NPIC report prior to publication. This has proven to be an effective practice in maintaining the quality and accuracy of Center reports. Since measurements are a significant part of many reports, it is strongly recommended that they be subject to final review before publication. This sign-off, which can be accomplished in TID without any significant delay to the publication, will not only provide a final check but will enable the photogrammetrist to better document each project with the knowledge of just what portion of the data he furnished was published.
- 2. TID is implementing new procedures for improving mensuration support of the photo interpreter by the Technical Analysis Branch in establishing a quality control check for all measurement work. This is being done to improve and maintain, at a high level, all mensuration work performed by the branch. Complete documentation is maintained on each project so that at any time the project can be reactivated and the method of work accomplishment verified.
- 3. TID personnel have been surprised at the number of measurements being made by the photo interpreter and the apparent lack of confidence some of the PI's have in the work performed by TAB. The TAB photogrammetrist is a professional in his field, having received special training, and is equipped with the best equipment available. Yet, there are times when the PI disputes the analysis of the photogrammetrist and even wants to alter his answers. This is different from the situation which occasionally occurs when a PI may question a measurement that differs significantly from previous measurements or data from another source, which TID welcomes. Granted, in the complex analysis he must perform,

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the photogrammetrist is going to make mistakes at times. He has in the past and he will in the future, but these are exceptions. Of the thousands of measurements made by the photogrammetrist, most are correct and all are documented. As collection systems improve, and better photography is received, the photogrammetrist will revise and update some of his former measurements, just as the PI updates and may change his previous interpretation. Some of the measurements made by the PI, and analyzed by TAB, have been found in error because image distortion was not recognized and corrected, the effect of film speed was not incorporated in the analysis, or other factors were not considered in his computations. These incorrect measurements, when discovered by someone outside NPIC, do not reflect on the PI, but rather on the TAB photogrammetrist who is brought to task for incorrect work he did not perform. It is of interest to note that while measurement requests in support of OAK's are on the increase, measurement support for the MCI is all but non-existent.

4. During the past year, liaison and coordination between the PI and the photogrammetrist has improved considerably. The PI is more clearly defining his requirements, and in turn the photogrammetrist is responding with better measurement support in quicker response time. By establishment of quality control and other new procedures, and in particular the inclusion of the photogrammetrist in each report sign-off, TID anticipates further improvement in its support to the PI and the publication of NPIC reports.

Chief, Technical Intelligence Division

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